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SCHOOLS ON STRIKE

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THE AMERICAN INDEPENDENT MOVEMENT NEWSLETTER
NEW HAVEN, CONN. V:5 MAR.15, 1970 20c

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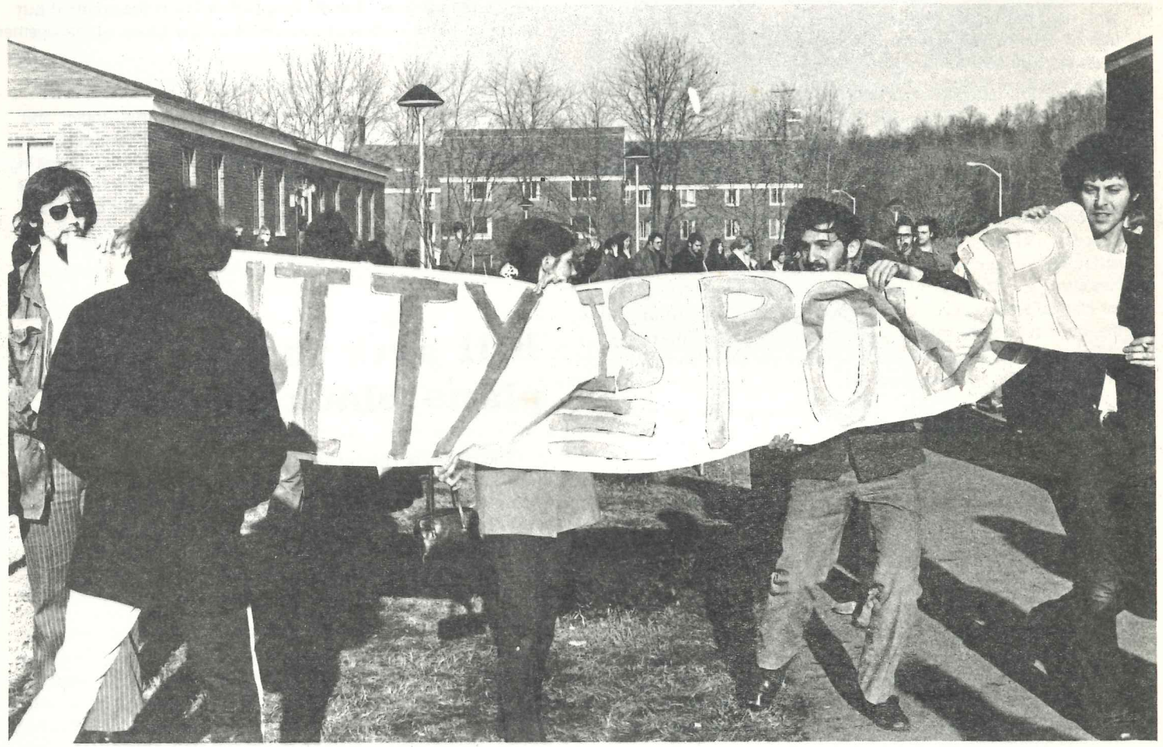
'UNITY IS POWER!'



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news briefs

hill health center wildcat

The clerical workers at the Hill Health Center held a two-day "sick" strike Friday, February 13, and Monday, February 16. The women-secretaries, medical record clerks, receptionists and a switchboard operator-were demanding equitable salaries. As in other organizations, the clerical workers at the Health Center are the lowest paid of all personnel, must have previous skill and experience before being hired, must stay glued to their desks the whole working day, and, of course, are all women.

The 11 members of the clerical staff had requested that their salaries be increased so that they would be in line with the salaries of other non-faculty employees by the end of this fiscal year (June, 1970). After meetings with the administration of the Hill Health Center and the Personnel Department of Yale, it became clear that the requests were not being given serious consideration.

One of the Health Center's goals is to hire neighborhood people and train them. In addition to low salaries, there is at present no provision for training clerical staff. The low morale and lack of incentive among the clerical staff is a direct result of these insufficiencies.

The group felt that, since their jobs were given low priority, their absence from the Health Center would create no great inconvenience and would offer an opportunity to assess the real importance of clerical positions. The very low salaries was the basic issue the group wanted to change.

This was in no way a negative action, but one which the group hoped would bring a positive response. However, no concrete action has yet been taken on the clerical workers' behalf. Supervisors and administrators are now aware of the fact that salaries for clerical workers are disproportionate to the amount of work the job requires and the skills needed for the jobs. This recognition could not have been done without the unity and support of a group taking collective action.

—Hill Health Center Secretary

health center workers get back pay raises

When the Hill Health Center clerical workers stayed out of work for two days to protest their inequitable salaries, the Hill Health Center and Yale administration reviewed the overall financial situation of the Center. It came out that the Center was running at a deficit. Yale is responsible for this deficit but used it as an excuse for not increasing the salaries of the clerical workers. The administration also used this deficit as an excuse to withhold all raises due as of January, 1970. There had been rumors in advance that this refusal might happen, and both the Hill Health Center and the community were adamant in stating that it shouldn't happen. Considering the miserable salaries Yale now pays its non-faculty workers, rescinding the annual raises of 13 workers would hardly reduce the deficit by any noticeable amount!

On February 27, payday, these 13 workers expected their paychecks to include their raises retroactive to January, 1970. Most of the workers had been working for two months under the impression they would get these raises. But the checks showed no increases, and the workers called the Treasurer's office to find out why. They were told Yale had decided to take back the raises.

It became clear to most of the workers affected that Yale had no respect for them as human beings. They also realized it was important to act as a solid group and demand the raises due them. Therefore, the workers, along with community representatives, went in a body to meet with Mr. A.W. Buesking, Associate Treasurer for Financial Management and Comptroller, the Yale official who took responsibility for taking back the pay raises.

At the meeting Mr. Buesking stated that Yale would not allow any more raises at the Center until the Center presented Yale with a workable plan of action for eliminating the deficit. Thus, the non-faculty workers not only were being held responsible for the deficit (even though Yale University is the grantee) but were also being penalized because of sloppy financial management by Yale.

The non-faculty workers refused to accept this "logic" and decided to remain in the Treasurer's office until the raises were given back. After two hours of heated discussion, Mr. Buesking (with consent of other Yale officials) gave back the raises. The workers received the additional money on Tuesday, March 2.

—Hill Health Center Worker

hill arts theater plans black anthology

The Hill Arts Theater is soliciting previously unpublished manuscripts from the New Haven area to be collected in an anthology. Robert Blount, director of the Arts Theater, views this anthology as one of his many outreaching programs "to invite the Black Community into what's happening." And what is happening, according to Blount, is a growing awareness by black people of their culture through the creative arts.

Blount is hopeful that the response will be strong. He is also hoping that in the future more community youths can be encouraged to become involved in creative writing. "We hope to have enough people actively involved to put out a series of art magazines (in addition to the anthology) sometime in the future; also to have dramatic readings at the Hill Arts Theater. Young writers will be reading from their own works."

The book, consisting of poems, short stories and one-act plays, is to be published this spring. Manuscripts should be sent to the Hill Arts Theater at 335 West Portsea Street, New Haven, in care of Miss Linda Texeira. For more information, phone 865-8161.

—Obamola Oydele

South Central: *Fight for a Real Community College*

by Renee Poirier

The author is a student at South Central.

South Central Community College (SCCC), which is nestled between 3:30 and 9:30 p.m. at Wilbur Cross High School, is being changed so that it really can benefit the people of the New Haven community.

Virginia Blaisdell

Since it opened in 1968 the "college" has been holding classes in a totally high school atmosphere. The President dictates to the administration, which dictates to the faculty, who in turn dictate to the students. For two years the students put up with the dictatorship because they couldn't get themselves together enough to do anything about it. However, this January the students did start to get themselves together. The result was a program for complete change in the structure of the school, putting the power where it belongs.

Two months ago a Student Alliance (SA) was formed. The Alliance has open membership for any student wishing to join. The purpose of the alliance was to have the students' voices heard in a way that the Student Government was incapable of doing. The Student Alliance was to deal with the problems of poor faculty-student relationships, the number of class absences allowed per semester, and other problems. When work was started towards correcting these situations, it became obvious that the problem wasn't just an unresponsive faculty. The problem was an oppressive bureaucracy that started in Hartford with the Regional Board of Trustees. Every time a proposal for change was brought to the college administration, students were told that the change must be approved by this person or by that committee. Hartford had ultimate say even though the bureaucrats there were miles away from the community and didn't know anything and probably cared less about the situation at South Central. The SA decided to make an issue of the demand for for a new site for the college. This demand would bring about a confrontation between the Hartford Board of Trustees, the college administration, and the students and would show just where everyone stood.

Students In a Factory

Ever since the school was started at Wilbur Cross two years ago, the Board of Trustees and the President have said they were trying to find land for a permanent site. They were also supposed to find a building to house the college until a permanent campus could be built. The best they could offer us after two years of "intensive" search was the old Sero shirt factory, now empty, a site half the size necessary and at a price that would deal one man a good profit —Arthur Barbieri, political boss and real estate speculator.

No one asked the students for ideas or opinions about an interim site. The decision on the Sero building was announced and that was all. By this time the students were organized enough to realize what was going down. Members of the Student Alliance did some investigation of the cost, size, ownership, and political involvement of the Sero site and came up with facts that smelled like the Mill River. The group came up with six main reasons for opposing the Sero site:

1. The building will be leased at $114,000 a year for 10 years, totaling $1,140,000.

—The college can only be there for five years.

— This is too much money to pay for the bad site.

2. The commercial rental rate for this type of property is approximately $2 per square foot, but according to the lease we will be spending $3.80 per square foot.

3. Sero contains 30,000 square feet.

—There will be only 20 classrooms.

—We will probably outgrow it in two years.

4. Eight of the surrounding companies have petitioned the Board of Aldermen's Legislation Committee in opposition to the move.

—The area is zoned for light industry and nothing else.

— The parking situation as it is now is critical. The introduction of 800 more cars would make it impossible.

5. We feel there are sites in New Haven that have not been investigated thoroughly enough.

6. We want a campus in New Haven, one that when purchased or leased will allow our money to go back to the people of New Haven and not into the pockets of a few individuals.

We agreed that the President and the Board had done an awful job, and it was time for the students to go out and do what the people in power couldn't do. Members of the SA got information about rentals in New Haven that hadn't been investigated by anyone before. We spoke to Aldermen and other politicians about our need for an interim site and a permanent site in New Haven. These talks made us realize that those with political power and/or money in New Haven really didn't want SCCC here. Not only did we have to deal with the bureaucracy within the college system, but now we had to deal with the city bureaucracy. In order to overcome the hassle with the city, we had to make the community aware of the college and what was happening to it.

Administration Building Sit-in

The Student Alliance called a meeting on Monday, March 9. Community people were invited to come and find out what was going on in their college. We asked their support in helping us find a suitable campus in New Haven. Unfortunately, only a few community people attended. We decided to take over the college administration building on Orange Street. This take-over would not only publicize the students' and sympathetic faculty members' feelings against the site but also would force the President and the Trustees to listen to students and teachers for a change instead of just to big businessmen and politicians. After occupying the building for a couple of hours, the students and teachers there were persuaded to leave by promises of a meeting the next day with members of the Hartford Board.

Student representatives went to Hartford Tuesday and got the same runaround that we had all been getting for a month and a half. That night students and some faculty decided to picket in front of the administration building and to boycott classes until the President agreed to meet with us.

Picketing started at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, March 11. Dr. Hendricks, President of SCCC, announced that he would meet with the students, faculty and administration at 7:30 that night. We continued to picket for the rest of the day and successfully boycotted classes.

Pressure Brings Concessions

The meeting with President Hendricks revealed just what kind of tyrant the President of our school was. He was so dogmatic that the faculty members took a stand in support of the students' need for a voice in running the school. The teachers denounced the President's intimidation of us and them. The faculty recessed for about 15 minutes to confer with Dr. Hendricks and came back with a proposal for a change in the structure of the school which would give equal voice to faculty, students and administration. Dr. Hendricks agreed to have the decision on acceptance of the Sero building tabled for a month while other possible sites are investigated. He cancelled classes for Thursday and Friday so that new committees could be set up to create a more democratic college system.

Workshops were held Thursday and Friday as the students, faculty and administration tried to develop a good, workable structure. On Saturday about 100 people from the college and community held a rally on the Green and afterwards broke down into smaller groups to discuss where to go from here and how to get the community involved in its college.

We are demanding that the school be restructured so that the students will have the power they need and the college can serve the community and really be what its name says.

N.H. College: Students

Students at New Haven College held a week long strike starting February 26. This was the first student strike in the history of the college. In this interview, John Tinker, a student at the college who participated on the student negotiating committee, describes the days of protest.

What led to this protest at New Haven College?

The tuition increase came through finally at the beginning of the semester. A lot of the students realized they just could not afford another $150 per year, especially realizing that it had gone up $250 a year previously. There was just no way to assume that it wouldn't go up another $150, $250, or whatever the year after. We just decided this is the point we've got to stop it.

We ended up coming up with other issues after the tuition increase, but that was one of the prime causes for the strike happening when it did. The other cause was that two teachers who were student-oriented, Bill Scholl, who was up for promotion, and Ralf Carrauiolo, who was up for tenure, were not given their rights by the administration, even though the faculty had recommended them.

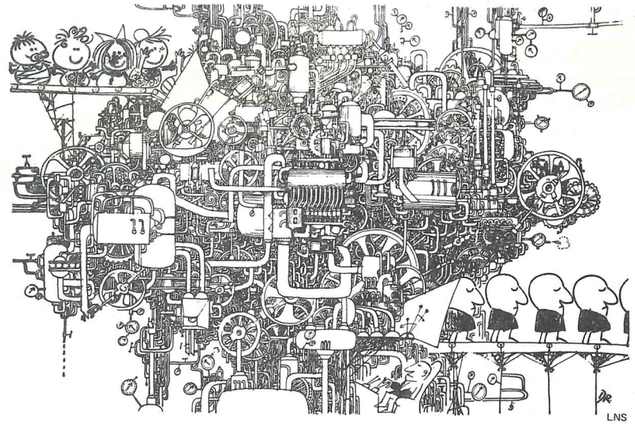
On Thursday, February 26, nearly 150 of us went into the president's office about that and about the tuition. We told the president of the college that we would go on strike until we were certain that the tenure and promotion had been granted and until the tuition increase had been reversed.

After that, we held a meeting attended by 400 or 500 students in the student lounge. We gathered from those students whatever complaints, demands, grievances they had with the administration of the college. These were compiled and broken down into ten different demands. The tenth one was amnesty for all those involved with the strike. The other nine included:

- reversal of the tuition increase
- students being involved at all levels of governance of the college
- improved parking (there are 1800 cars registered for day student parking and only 1300 spaces available, and of the 1300, less than 200 are paved)
- improved dormitory facilities (lighting was not provided by the school at all within the rooms and the student center was closed at 10 p.m., and there is no real housing department)

Why are the students at New Haven College particularly upset about this tuition increase?

There is the simple fact that New Haven College is 80% a commuter school. Of that 80%, probably 90% are students who could not afford to go to school out of town if they had to live there and pay the additional expenses of living there and could not work. The vast majority of students at New Haven College do hold at least part-time jobs. They are working people. A large number hold full-time jobs. I personally interviewed 23 students when the strike first started who would have to drop out under the increase, simply because they could not make enough money to make up the difference.



Start to Strike

On top of that is the fact that the year before there had been a $250 increase along with which went a number of promises as to where the money was going and why it was necessary. The first was pavement of the parking lot and expansion of the cafeterias. (Most of New Haven College students have to live at home and commute.) Simply physical things, neither of which was done. Beyond that there was $250,000 allotted from the last increase in '68 for faculty salary increases and for new full-time salaries for faculty. Of the $250,000, $75,000 was used in that way. We have yet to get an accounting where the other $175,000 went, but we do know that it was spent because the operating gain of the college that year was $23,000. The students refuse to pay two years in a row tuition increases for precisely the same ends.

Why did what had been considered a very conservative campus suddenly rise up and make demands on the administration?

I suppose there is something basically radical in the fact that students are demanding rights. Up until this time students haven't had rights, students have been stepped on. We said, in effect, it's our school. We're paying for 95% of it; we're here five days a week; we're subjected to the rules and regulations; we're made to pay the fees. You damn well better believe that we've got a right to determine what the fees are going to be, what the rules and regulations are going to be, and what the basic policies of the school are!

I guess it's unfortunate that it took a dollars and cents affair to get students involved in what's going on on campus. But once that triggered it, it went. The school was closed down for over a week. Three days of that week was by executive order and the rest of that week was by student order. We made no attempt to physically prevent teachers from holding class or the administration from carrying on their normal function. What we did was to effectively keep enough students out of class so that the school, after a very few days of that, was closed down.

Could you give a brief history of the events that took place over the week?

We went into the president's office; we presented our demands; we stated that we were going out on strike if they weren't met immediately. We demanded at that time a meeting with as many members of the Board of Governors as possible on that day, which was Thursday.

The group of 125 then returned to the student lounge to meet around 500 students. The predominant feeling and the chant was: "Strike!, Strike!, Strike!" We decided that students would stay within the Student Center and not take over the building and not deny anyone entrance or exit but simply stay there until our demands were met.

We selected somewhat randomly a strike committee. It represented literally every bona fide group on campus, every group that was recognized by the college, and several groups that weren't: SDS, Yippies and Revolutionary People's Party. We held a meeting of this group of almost 30 people. This group met just about once every 12 hours thereafter.

The strike started on a Thursday. We had about 100 students sleep in the building that night. We spent that night preparing posters and leaflets. Saturday went by with several meetings with a number of large rap sessions, which is probably the best thing to come out of that strike for the New Haven College campus. We had, constantly, for seven days, rap sessions going on. Ten or 15 students would get together and sit down in a room and hold something close to a T-group thing. We'd sit down and talk about whatever came into our minds. Anything from whether we should espouse revolution to whether or not smoking pot was good. We talked about intra-campus politics, outside politics, abortion laws and anything else you could possible imagine.

Monday a large number of students who had supported us on Friday returned to classes, and we had a very serious fear of fading completely. At that point, President Marvin Petersen of the college started hedging on his agreement to give Ralf Carrauiolo and Bill Scholl their tenure and promotion respectively, and all of a sudden we had a big issue that we announced constantly in the cafeteria, and all of a sudden we had big support again.

Monday night we had a meeting with the full Board of Governors. It lasted about six hours. The net result was that they assigned a committee to negotiate with us. Not one demand was so much as discussed at that meeting.

Tuesday a lot of the students who were involved on emotional levels and not intellectual levels started returning to classes, mostly out of the fear that they would either be thrown out of classes for cuts or flunked, or other sorts of individual reprisals from individual teachers.

Tuesday night the student committee of six met with the six Board members. The students had previously set up a closed circuit TV system so the entire meeting would be played into the cafeteria for viewing by anyone interested in watching. At the time the meeting started, there were almost 300 students in the cafeteria watching the two closed circuit TV's. The Board refused to meet with the cameras on them. The students refused to meet without the cameras on them. We went back to the students and told them quite specifically that, if the Board of Governors was going to lie to six of us, they were going to have to lie to 500 of us.

Because the strike committee had gone out of its way to prevent violence Wed-

nesday night and because the president of the college closed down the school as of Tuesday night, the Board committee came back, and Wednesday evening six students and six members of the Board committee sat down together.

We negotiated for about eight hours and reached tentative accord on all of the demands and said that the strike would go on until the Board of Governors made each of those accords final. Included in those accords was the fact that no student would be punished in any way for participation in the strike, including cuts not being counted against students and tests given during the strike could be made up. A number of conservative faculty members had gone out of their way *not* to support us. They had scheduled tests as soon as they found out the strike was on. The Board not only said that tests could be made up, they said they would use whatever power they had to back up their statement that no action would be taken against students.

On Thursday the strike continued. At this point we got a lot more support than we ever had, if for no other reason than now we were winning, and we had at least a commitment of the Board's guarantee of amnesty.

Thursday night the Board members voted unanimously in favor of the ten accords, except for one abstention. The final effect of the accords on the major issues was:

—Students will be involved in every level of governance, including three full-voting seats on the Board of Governors and representation on every administrative committee of the college.

—The tuition increase will be cut back to $75 this year rather than $150. After this year there will be a maximum tuition increase per annum of 8½% contracted with the students. At no time can an increase exceed that amount.

— Parking lots will be paved by the end of the semester. Until they are paved, parking will be totally open. There had been reserved spaces for faculty and staff. This was a form of discrimination.

— The dorm issue was put entirely in the hands of dorm students in negotiation with the administration.

— The rest of the issues were either resolved 100% in favor of the students or compromised at least 70% in favor of the students.

The other results have been that, for the first time in, I don't know how many years, the students of New Haven College came together and stayed together. A Faculty-Student Action Committee has been formed in order to work out relationships and common issues between faculty and students. Ralf Carrauiolo has been appointed Special Assistant to the President for Faculty-Student Relationships. This is an ombudsman's position.

Do you see any broader political implications to what took place at New Haven College?

I think our partial victory lays a basis for students who have maintained a statewide reputation for being conservative and apathetic to become involved in what is going on outside of the campus. That was one of my main reasons for becoming involved in intra-campus politics. A lot of these students do care about what goes on outside, do care about what the position of the college student is in terms of the people in general. Unfortunately, they could always sit back and say well, I care but I won't necessarily become involved. Now they're put in a position of knowing that the only way to achieve anything is to be involved, is to act, to do something about what you feel. I think this is the first step toward involving a lot of basically apathetic, basically conservative people in what is going on across the country, in what is going on across the world.

I know a lot of students who had been coming to classes and leaving campus and that was it. But, all of a sudden, they realized they've been kicked around, they've been shit upon. I think this is going to help them realize that other people—workers, Vietnamese, black people, women—are being kicked around and shit on, by the present system. I very definitely think that it is a major step—it is by no means the only step. By no means all of a sudden everybody at New Haven College is going to be involved with a worldwide movement. But it is very definitely a step in the right direction and has to be followed up. If not, then the major thrust of the strike was a waste, and we saved $75 for next year and that's all.

And probably the most trivial thing in the entire pile was $75. Because if the decrease of $75 tuition ensures a large number of people the right to go to New Haven College, but all they do is go and attend classes and don't become involved in anything, the whole purpose of their going and the whole purpose of decreasing it is kind of cut down. Not to nothing—they sure as hell deserve the right to the education they're getting—but a lot of the reason for doing it is very definitely cut down.

Southern Struggle Arbitrary

by Betty Condon, Robert Phipps, and Tom Hogan. *The authors are students at Southern Connecticut.*

Students at Southern Connecticut State College (SCSC) were attacked by New Haven police during a sit-in demonstration in the SCSC administration building on Thursday, March 5. The main demand of the students was to reinstate a student SDS organizer who was not allowed to continue at the school because of his political activities.

Since the time of this demonstration, no action has been taken by the administration to allow the student, John Parks, back in school. The other demands have simply been handed over from the president of the college, Hilton C. Buley, to the Executive Council of the Student Government. The administration hopes to get away without answering any of the important questions raised by the students.

John Parks had been an evening student and was working for the college's food service during the day. He had a high grade-point average of 3.75. When Parks applied for admission to Southern Connecticut as a day student for the spring semester, his application was rejected. When he tried to register for evening classes again, he was prevented from doing so and was fired from his campus job.

The administration tried to get away with dismissing Parks on technicalities. They said he had held SDS meetings in the College Union and that, since he was a night student, he wasn't allowed to participate in campus activities. The administration further claimed that the meeting was illegal anyway because permission had not been granted for the meeting to take place in the College Union. President

Conn.: Against Power

"I'm glad you young people have seen fit to protest nonviolently. It shows you're civilized. Now get out."

LNS

Buley has said twice that SDS will never be recognized as a college organization. This is political discrimination because some outside groups are granted use of the College Union, like the veterans' club.

Supporters of John Parks, mostly students not in SDS, had been trying to get him reinstated for a month. They got 600 students to sign a petition asking that he be allowed to return. This exercise of the Constitutional right of petition and other efforts were unsuccessful. On March 4 things started happening.

Wednesday, March 4

A group of students concerned about the Parks case held a rally around the flagpole and then decided to sit in the hall of the administration building. The demonstrators gathered on one side of the hallway while curious onlookers gathered on the other side.

President Buley came out of his office and told the demonstrators that he would not speak to a "mob". At this point there was general questioning of Buley, but he did not reply. He did agree to meet with three representatives of the group, but students didn't agree to Buley's offer. In the past Buley had met with individual students and later denied what he had promised during the meeting.

The sit-in then continued until evening. It was learned that Dean Middlebrooks was on his way to speak to the students. A few minutes later, students were told that Middlebrooks had suddenly become ill and wouldn't be there.

The administration sent out word that they would meet with 12 student representatives. The students agreed to this proposal on the condition that the meeting be broadcase over WOWL, the school radio station. The administration said that a broadcast would be technologically impossible. Then the administration said that it would meet with six representatives, provided that they would not use a tape-recoedrer. The representatives had two demands:

1. The reinstatement of John Parks.
2. That a student—faculty review board be set up for any future cases similar to this one.

Some demonstrators decided to stay in the building at 10:30. But the building didn't close. At 10:40 Dean Middlebrooks came out and told the students that they had to be out of the building by 11, or be arrested. Everyone left by 11.

Thursday, March 5

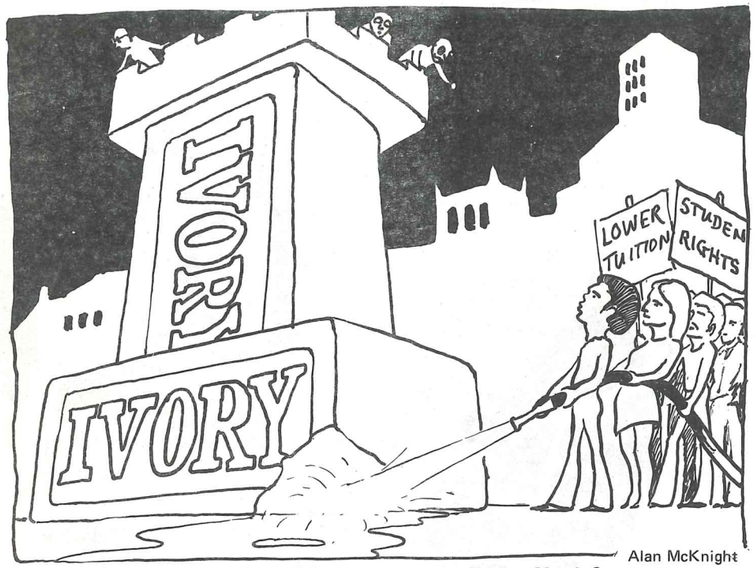
At 1:30 a large crowd began to gather around the flagpole. The students who were chosen as representatives reported that nothing had been settled, in the meeting with President Buley. Buley claimed that the students wouldn't meet any of his demands.

Some students wanted to go into the College Union and "hold a meeting" to discuss further activities. Others said that the only thing to do was to resume the sit-in.

Participants then proceeded to sit quietly against the walls without blocking traffic. When Buley emerged from his office, he told the students that anyone who did not leave within 20 minutes would be arrested. Furthermore, he told them that there would be no more demonstrations—that only rallies around the flagpole were permissible.

Students asked Buley whether or not he would permit peaceful demonstrations. Buley's answer was, "I don't call this a peaceful demonstration. At this point Buley refused a proposal about having a meeting with the six representatives in front of an audience. He denied the charge that he was putting the demonstrations down because of an up-coming visit by the Board of Trustees.

Some of the demonstrators began to leave—others decided to stay up to the 20 minute deadline. About 15 minutes later, New Haven Chief of Police James Ahern stepped out of Buley's office along with 10 or 15 plainclothesmen. There was a paddy wagon waiting at a loading platform one floor below. Ahern told the people who were standing in the hall that if they did not leave the building within five minutes they would be arrested. Someone asked if students could go to classes or to the library. Ahern replied, "No". He said that everyone had to leave the building.



Alan McKnight

After two or three minutes, people began to leave the building. Two students who had been in the hall tried to enter the library. Buley ordered the police to block the doors. One of the students turned and asked Buley why he couldn't enter the library of his own school. There was conversation. Then someone suddenly yelled that the time was up. An observer had timed the interval at three and a half minutes.

All was confusion. Buley ordered the cops to "get Parks." A movie camera was immediately turned toward the student, who had been standing near the library entrance. There were cops all over Parks, and one student was yelling for them to leave John alone. Parks was on the floor bleeding from the face. Finally the cops grabbed the other students. All together six were arrested. All of the people arrested were active in the Concerned Students group, except for a teacher from a New Haven high school who was walking by. Buley said about the teacher, "He was obstructing the corridor."

All were carried out in various wrestling holds. One of the girls had a cop's arm around her head and a cop on each arm. John Parks was seized around his throat and was yelling that he couldn't breathe. Then they were loaded into the police van.

Friends of the arrested spent the evening collecting bail money. They went to the jail only to find out that the bail had been raised to $7000 from the lower sum they had originally been told. They collected the rest, and the six people were free.

Friday, March 6

By noon a crowd of several hundred had gathered around the flagpole. Speeches began. People who didn't agree with the demonstration were invited to ask questions. For the most part, the crowd was composed of demonstrators. Many of the leaders of the group were not present. A rumor had been started that, if the arrested people were on campus, they would be arrested again.

After the story of previous events was told, the president of the sophomore class and the president of the Student Government stood on the box and spoke over the loud-speaker. One phrase was repeated throughout the speeches: "Go through the proper channels." People in the crowd shouted: "What are the proper channels?" and "We already tried that."

Ken Mead, president of the Student Government, discussed the Student Activity Fund, budgetary hearings, problems of housing, etc. Again the crowd spoke up: "Talk about the crisis now." One of the leaders yelled: "Everybody, let the man speak." Someone demanded; "Do you agree that the administration needs to be changed? That's all I want to know." Mead answered: "You can't say yes or no to a question like that."

It was suggested that the sit-in be resumed for one hour. It was emphasized that each person was going in for his or her own reasons. Most of the crowd followed. They sat quietly against the walls again for some time.

After the hour was up, everyone left. Buley had stated before that there would be no more demonstrations allowed in the building. But these demonstrators, nearly 350, were not arrested.

Monday, March 9, to Tuesday, March 17

A meeting between the Concerned Students group, Student Government, the administration, and the student body was set up for March 12. Instead of the administration dealing straight with the Concerned Students, who originally tried to organize a meeting, Buley decided to deal through the Student Government. The March 12 meeting was finally held after innumerable hassles.

1800 people were there for the meeting: faculty, students, and administration. There were demands read to Dr. Buley, and he was given a chance to answer. A deadline of Tuesday, March 17, was given for formal answer to the demands.

At the meeting Buley managed to steer clear of all of the six demands and gave the crowd his usual condescending evasiveness. Nothing was actually decided at this open hearing.

On March 17 a letter of reply was received from Buley. It stated that Parks' case will be submitted to the State Attorney-General to see if John's Constitutional rights were violated. Again the decision was not the students' but an administrator's. The rest of the letter was, like before, a mis-mash of rhetoric about the "proper channels", "Student Bill of Rights," and "if cops are needed they will be called." The actual demands were not answered. They were relegated to the "Executive Council of the Student Government." As of now the demands have not been met in the least instance.

The Concerned Students group has stressed that they are not making a personal attack on Dr. Buley but on the structure of the system which he represents. All of the grievances which have been brought out at this time are only symptoms of the primary problem. The situation at SCSC is such that Buley, as president, has final and ultimate power over all decisions that are made at the college. This situation will not be changed by getting a new president or by giving the student government more power. This power is only relative. Unless the structure is reorganized so that all members of the college have a fair share of power, Buley still can deal with students however he wants. It is the arbitrary use of power against them, not as just students, but as people, which students at SCSC are challenging.

Quinnipiac Strike: *Unity IS Power!*

Students march is support of the negotiating committee. Photos: Virginia Blaisdell

Students at Quinnipiac College recently won a week-long strike for lower tuition increases, $50,000 from the corporate executives on the Board of Trustees, and more student power in the functioning of the college. This is the first time in the college's history that the students mobilized themselves against the administration. "Unity IS Power!" was the slogan of the week as all students—commuters and residents, black and white, women and men, fraternity and independent—formed a Student Coalition.

During the strike more than 50 teachers showed support, and most classes were cancelled. The teachers themselves formed a chapter of the American Federation of Teachers, an AFL-CIO union. "With your [students'] union and our [teachers'] union and a secretaries' union, we can get together and run the whole school," said one teacher to the cheering students at their victory rally, Wednesday, March 11.

In the interview below, Drew Hurley, one of the student activists, tells the story of the strike.

How did the whole thing start?

Organizational meetings of students concerned about issues had taken place weeks prior to the actual strike. These meetings involved all different organizations on campus. Representatives from each organization formed themselves into a steering committee which took over the actual planning of the strike. When large numbers of students were ready to move, the steering committee then decided to hold the strike on a Friday.

The administration got wind of the plans for the strike, and, out of necessity, the strike was moved up to Tuesday. One of the major factors involved was surprise. An extensive advertising campaign was started Monday night to inform all students of the strike. The next day 1300 students were at the first rally at Alumni Hall at 11 a.m., Tuesday.

Right from the beginning, the leaders could feel the sense of unity among the whole crowd. 400 people were expected. The 1300 was overwhelming. While the rally was going on, three student representatives went to see President John Herder to present the demands. Upon their return to Alumni Hall, they reported back to the crowd, and the decision was made to occupy the Library building. A negotiating committee then handled our demands.

How were negotiations handled?

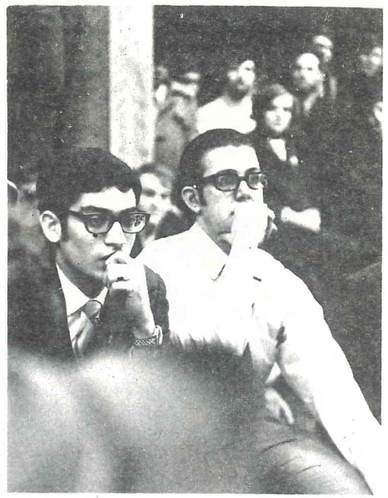
There were two sets of negotiations going on simultaneously. One with the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees and the other with the College Senate (a body of faculty and administrators).

Before any decision was reached in the negotiating room, the student leaders called for a vote of all those in the Library building as to their decision on the question. No decision was made without a vote of the entire student body. Complete democracy prevailed.

The Board negotiations were carried on in an atmosphere stifling with pettiness. The Senate negotiations, which were open to the student body, were a much more open, free discussion of the educational process. The results were much more satisfactory.

" Man, I'm a student at *Quinnipiac*. "

Life in the liberated Library.



Strike leaders listen to their constituency.

The students were in high spirits even after having stayed in the library for eight straight days. How was this spirit kept up?

The students' faith in their leaders and belief in their demands helped keep the general spirit at a high level. Also free entertainment was supplied by many local New Haven organizations. The entertainment ranged from movies to rock bands. Youth culture is a liberating force.

What were the free school classes held during the strike like?

The classes were conducted in the way that both students and many faculty members believe that classes should be conducted. as a discussion group with all participating equally. These discussion groups ranged in topics from the classroom situation to abnormal psychology. The classes were conducted throughout the library with students and faculty participating in all different discussions.

Chairs in the classrooms were arranged in a circle form and, after the strike was over, remained this way. The ideals of the strike have not been forgotten.

How will the strike affect classroom relationships between students and teachers in the future?

It will take time before all the changes that are occurring can be realized. But significant changes in course requirements will naturally affect the classroom situation. Students regard faculty with a much more perceptive eye than before the strike. And the faculty realize that the students want and will have a say in the way the classes are run.

Why do you think your demands were answered so easily? Why were the police never called in?

There is one main reason for the negotiations and whole strike being carried on peacefully. The Board, and especially President Herder, would not be able to face parents or the student body ever again if the police had been called. Also, Herder wants to run for Governor, and doesn't want any bad publicity.

What is the future of the Student Coalition?

The Student Coalition continues today and will continue as a permanent organized body in the future with all questions, as during the strike, put to the whole student body before a decision could be reached. The Student Coalition hopes to achieve as many victories for the students as possible.

Open mike: students listen intently to debate of issues.

Outside negotiating room. Students chant: "Open up the curtains; we want to *see* you!"

SOME OF THE 16 VICTORIES WON BY THE QUINNIPIAC STUDENT COALITION FOR ACTION

1. Tuition for present freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will increase by $50 to $1400. This tuition level for these students will be stabilized (remain the same for three years).

Before the strike, plans were to raise tuition for ALL students by $150 to $200. Also, no plans for stabilization had been announced, which means tuition could have continued to rise for all in the years to come.

3. The Board of Trustees, through the Office of the President, and working with students, will undertake a vigorous campaign to raise Unrestricted Gifts to the college for the 1970-71 year from $20,000 to $50,000. In addition, the Board accepts the principle of a continued program to further increase the gifts.

The Coalition's original demand was that each corporation represented on the Board of Trustees give $100,000 to the school because these corporations benefit by having graduates of Quinnipiac work for them and because students and the school itself do business with them. This demand, if met, would have raised approximately $1,400,000 for the school. For several days of negotiations, the Executive Committee of the Board refused to even recognize the CONCEPT that they had to make any such commitment. They finally gave in on the concept, but only committed themselves to an additional $30,000.

4. An expanded scholarship campaign of the highest priority will be undertaken, with particular emphasis on aid for disadvantaged students of all races.

The Coalition hopes that this victory will offset some of the items the striking students gave in on in numbers 2 and 3. In general, the Board must live up to this commitment if Quinnipiac is to remain a school for people from many different income backgrounds and for people from the New Haven area who might not otherwise be able to afford to go to Quinnipiac.

5. The Executive Committee accepts the principle of two-year stabilization of tuition and the principle of one year notice of any change in tuition.

7. The Executive Committee agrees, in principle, to the seating of three students on the Board of Trustees. The Executive Committee will recommend: 1) The immediate appointment of three students for one year terms on the Board of Trustees effective for the spring meeting; 2) A change in Board bylaws within the year to provide for the direct elections of *at least* three student representatives on the Board and; 3) One student shall be a member of the Executive Committee.

Originally the Coalition demanded five students on the Board and two on the Executive Committee. Some Board members thought one would be enough. A compromise of three was decided on. In any case, the victory of having students represented on the Board for the first time was won.

11. There will be no discrimination between commuter and resident students regarding charges for evening courses.

13. There will be public disclosure and discussion of past, present and future long-range financial and physical plans of the College.

Anyone who has wondered in the past exactly where all the money is coming from and where it is all going will see the importance of this victory. The same applies to the buildings on campus that you may have wondered about. If students are going to get into running this school, they have to know things like this, and they will from now on.

Three demands are being negotiated with the faculty:

14. Immediate seating of 11 students on the College Senate.

16. Abolition of divisional curriculum requirements for present sophomore, junior and senior and the entering freshman class, to be effective June 29, 1970.

CAPTAINS OF ERUDITION: QUINNIPIAC COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

WILLIAM S. PERLROTH
CHAIRMAN BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Attorney
Member, A. Perlroth & Son, Real Estate

CARL N. HANSEN
VICE-CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Vice-president and comptroller, SNETCO.
Net profit: $28,465,000.

JOHN HERDER
PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE
Formerly of SNETCO
Trustee, Hamden National Bank

SAMUEL W. TATOR
PRESIDENT EMERITUS
of the College
LIFE MEMBER OF THE BOARD

NILS G. SAHLIN
PRESIDENT EMERITUS
of the College

LOUIS L. HEMINGWAY, JR.
Assistant Vice-president, Second National Bank. Net profit: $1,904,113.

PASQUALE ABBATE
General Manager, Real Estate Company and Insurance

SAMUEL GALPIN
Thompson, Weir & Barclay, Attorneys-at-Law.

DANIEL POUZZNER
Pouzzner & Hadden, Attorneys-at-Law

ROBERT C. ZAMPANO
U.S. Judge for District of Connecticut.

FREDERICK T. BACKSTROM
SECRETARY OF THE COLLEGE
Chairman, First Federal Savings and Loan Ass'n of New Haven (part of a national banking system with profits of $3,239,865,000.)
Director, Tradesman National Bank of New Haven. Gross profits, 1968: $381,538.

DAVID SELIGSON
Professor of medicine and pathology, Yale
Director, Clinical Labs, Yale-N.H. Hospital
expenses: $16,022,000. total endowment and income: $27,413,000.
Trustee, Conn. Div. American Cancer Soc.

ALBERT FREIJE
Public Relations Director, Yale—New Haven Hospital

E. WIGHT BAKKE
LIFE MEMBER OF THE BOARD
Sterling Professor of Economics at Yale
Director, Labor and Management Center

FRANCIS H. HORN
Executive Director, Commission of Independent Colleges and Universities of New York State
Trustee, R.I. Citizens Savings Bank
Trustee, Nicholas College and Old Forge College

EDWARD J. SCANNELL
TREASURER OF THE COLLEGE
Partner, Kircaldie, Randall & McNab
Certified Public Accountants

THOMAS HOOKER
ASS'T. TREASURER OF THE COLLEGE
Executive Vice-president, First New Haven National Bank. Net profit, 1968: $1,904,113

G. GORDON COPELAND
Vice-president, secretary and treasurer, SNETCO. Net profit: $28,465,000
Director, Second National Bank. Net profit: $1,904,113.
Director, Woodbury Telephone Co. Gross profits, 1968: $285,041

CALYTON A. KOLSTAD
Executive vice-president, Sargent & Co., a subsidiary of Kidde & Co. with net earnings Jan.to June, 1968 $14,580,000.

WILLIAM L. WALLACE
Group vice-president, Winchester Group, Olin Mathieson Chemical Corp. Net profits 1968: $55,000,000

WALTER J. NESTER,JR.
Financial advertising director, New Haven Register. Financial information is private.

Give a damn. Schools should serve the people.

Panthers Denied Justice

by John Bancroft

Bobby Seale, National Chairman of the Black Panther Party, has been brought to Connecticut to stand trial with eight other Panthers facing murder charges in connection with the death of Alex Rackley.

Seale was extradited from California and flown to Connecticut under heavy armed guard in a specially-chartered plane. The plane landed at an obscure part of the airport open only to police and newsmen. Seale was immediately whisked off to Montville State Correctional Center. He was later brought before a judge for arraignment in a special judicial session held at the Correctional Center.

Seale is charged with first degree murder, kidnapping, conspiracy, and binding with criminal intent. The other seven remaining defendants face slightly different but equally serious charges. According to police, they tortured and killed Party member Alex Rackley because he was an informer for the police in the New York Panther 21 case. The Panthers and many other groups in New Haven deny this police allegation strongly. According to the Panthers, Rackley was a member in good standing of the Party who was killed by George Sams and other police agents in the organization.

Three of the original 14 defendants in the Rackley case have changed their pleas to guilty to lesser charges such as second degree murder and conspiracy. The New Haven Panthers and groups who support their rights state that these changes of pleas were made under severe pressure by the police and prosecution. These changes of plea don't mean the defendants aren't innocent. In addition, two juveniles originally involved in the case have been "adjudicated" and released. Both have been moved out of Connecticut, so they are unavailable for questioning by the defense.

Two of the nine defendants who will have to face trial, Rory Hithe and Landon Williams, are currently jailed in Denver, Colorado, where they face extradition. Their lawyers are fighting this move.

Seale made his first appearance in New Haven Superior Court on Wednesday, March 18 and was faced immediately with the pressure and injustice that have marked the handling of this case from the start. Dozens of state and local police, FBI agents, and sheriffs packed the courtroom. The prosecution would like to see this kind of threatening and tense atmosphere created before the trial even begins. No justification of this threatening treatment was even attempted by the prosecution.

Seale also faced a much more immediate threat to a fair trial. This threat was a Connecticut law that hampers out-of-state lawyers from practicing in the state. This law would have barred Seale from keeping San Francisco lawyer Charles Garry in the New Haven case. It would have, once again, as in the Conspiracy 8 case, denied Seale the lawyer of his choice. Garry stated before the hearing that Seale "would just not go along with any trial" if Garry was not his lawyer and that Seale would not allow anyone else to represent him. The next day Presiding Judge Harold M. Mulvey gave in and stated that Garry would be allowed to represent Seale. Garry will be assisted by David Rosen, a local attorney.

In a second court victory, Seale's lawyers were granted a delay in the deadline for filing motions until April 14. It is not known how long this process will take once it gets started, but Seale's lawyers do plan to challenge the entire validity of the prosecution case on many different grounds.

Meanwhile, lawyers for the other defendants continue to present motions challenging the grossly unfair legal treatment the Panthers have received.

The defense team, which now has at least nine lawyers, has made motions that already number in the dozens that fall into two basic categories. They will make a third series of motions at a later time. Most of these motions have not been ruled upon to date. Many of the motions that are rejected will be taken to the federal courts on appeal.

In the first series of motions, the lawyers have moved to have all the charges thrown out of court because a variety of illegal procedures have bene used by the prosecution in this case: arrests with no warrants and no search warrants; illegal use of bench warrants in the transferring of the cases from the local circuit court to the Superior Court; etc. The whole grand jury system that was used to indict the Panthers is being challenged as illegal because of its unfair composition (mainly middle class whites) and the unfair method of selecting its members.

In the second category are those motions that do not directly deal with the charges themselves but are vital in determining what will happen in the case in the next few months. Several of these have already been denied: bail for four of the five Panther prisoners; permission for the defendants to meet together; request to examine Rackley's body (the prosecution informed the court that the remains had already been speedily shipped out of Connecticut); permission for attorneys to interview defendants other than their own.

Many motions have also been made concerning the brutal pre-trial detention treatment of the defendants. The lawyers asked that the Panthers be allowed freer access to mail and visitors and more humane surroundings: Lonnie McLucas, for example, who the prosecution is trying to break, is being held in a tiny room separated from all other prisoners.

This kind of treatment is an obvious attempt to break the will of the prisoners during the long months before the trial. The lawyers asked that the judge order the police to stop "visiting" the defendants (presumably to put on all of them the kind of intense pressure they put on Warren Kimbro who later changed his plea to guilty) without the defense attorneys being informed. The judge agreed to direct the police to obtain the permission of the bench before visiting clients, but he denied the lawyers the right of notification when such visits occurred. In these coming months before the trial starts, the cards are being stacked up against the Panthers so that a fair trial will certainly not be possible by the time the trial starts.

This situation explains why the defense lawyers have made and will continue to make pre-trial motions to try to break the pattern of pressure and injustice that has been applied to the Panther prisoners. When the motions mentioned here are ruled on, the third series of motions, aimed at obtaining the specifics of the prosecutions case against the defendants will be brought up.

It seems like the New Haven Panther trial will not begin until sometime in the fall. That is a terrible fact for the innocent Panthers who will have been locked up for at least 16 months without a trial. But it is also an opportunity for everyone interested in justice to work in every way possible to see that the 14 New Haven Panthers will be freed. An American Dreyfus case must not be allowed to happen.

yale center:

Social Science = Social Control

The following article was prepared from two separate sources: SDS at Yale and Robert Pozen.

Yale University is planning to build a $65 million Social Science Research Center. The Center will occupy the city block between Temple, Wall, College, and Elm Streets, evicting many New Haven residents and relocating other Yale facilities into the surrounding community. Yale claims its purpose is to solve "pressing and persistent human problems."

We know from past experience that Yale doesn't help people. It creates our problems, not solves them. This is obvious: it pays miserable wages to its workers, buys the best land, kicks people out of their homes, and pollutes the air. Furthermore, it helps to train the leaders of government and business who do these things, and those lawyers and politicians who help them get away with it. As far as Yale is concerned, the problems arise when people object to Yale's actions.

The Social Science Center will be financed by major corporations, the U.S. Defense Department, and large business-sponsored foundations. Understanding the interests these things have in the control and the wealth of the rest of the world, we can see that the Center is not only concerned with exploiting New Haven. It is an institution to study and develop the means to control, exploit, and further oppress people all over the world.

The program outlined by Center head, John Perry Miller, is bad news to many in the university and New Haven community. Miller says that the Institute will be "an institution for social and policy studies in problem areas to which social science can make a contribution." He cites as an example of a good research topic "the nature and function of the international business corporation", carried out over an indefinite time period with no obligations to formulate definite proposals or solve specific problems. Miller rejects as too specific topics like a one-year study to suggest ways of cleaning up New Haven's pollution problems.

Other possibilities for the Center include research for the Defense Department or large corporations. Social Science groups like the Center have often helped the Pentagon map out its "democratization" strategies. Just this year, Brewster has appointed a former Under-Secretary of defense as Yale's liaison to Washington. The government needs organizations like the Center to train in advance area experts on those parts of the world which may become battlegrounds.

Large corporations now need social research in the housing field, especially on new towns and large housing developments. General Electric, Westinghouse, and many other corporations are now planning to reap great profits in the housing field. The government has often paid for the social research needed by these corporations. Charles Haar, former Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and a member of the University Council Committee on the Center, often served as the middleman between the government and the corporations. In the last few years he gave out large amounts of research money to Harvard for a study on new towns and to the research arm of Kaiser Aluminum for a study of constraints on the housing market.

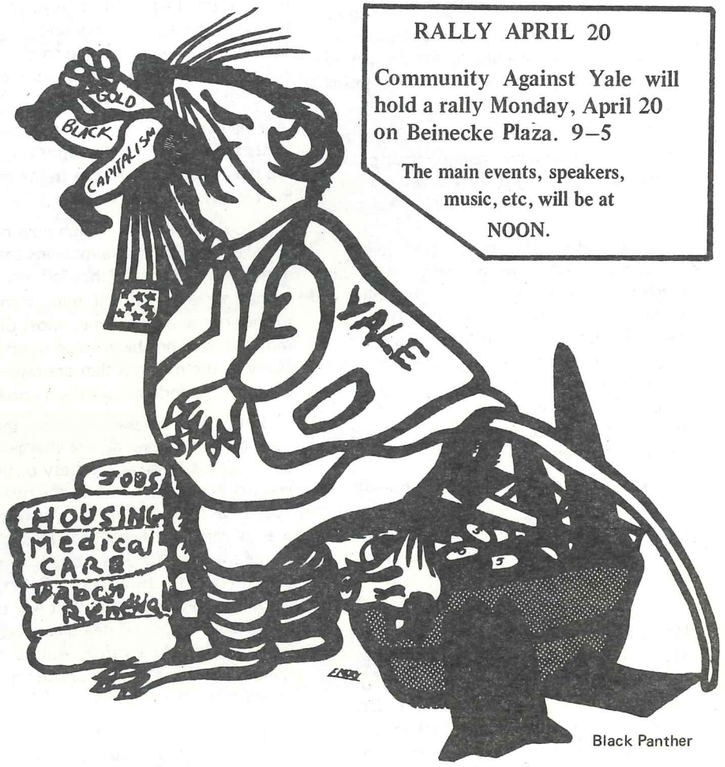
Yale's Center will have three sections. The information available to people outside of Yale administrators about the exact programs to be undertaken is scarce, but it is possible to get some idea of what the Center will do from the working papers recently made public.

The Educational Studies section of the Center will have a "Mid-careers Program" to turn out the highest rank of school administrators throughout the country. The Urban Studies section of the Center may train top-level city administrators for the nation's largest cities. The Management Center seems designed to fulfill alumni demands for Yale competition to the Harvard Business School's virtual monopoly on leadership positions in big business.

RALLY APRIL 20

Community Against Yale will hold a rally Monday, April 20 on Beinecke Plaza. 9–5

The main events, speakers, music, etc, will be at NOON.



Black Panther

business.

Center for Educational Studies

The Center for Educational Studies will study different ways of managing school systems. They have already started a program to bring school superintendents to Yale for a year of administrative "education" (how to control people more efficiently and painlessly).

Yale also says that new ways of teaching need to be developed. But what is wrong with the schools is not to be found solely inside the classroom. The people who control the resources of this country are interested in profits and social control. They will put only as much money into education as is necessary to produce the labor and skills needed for the institutions and industry of the country. This means that school classes are too large, buildings are prison-like, teachers are not well-trained, and there are too few of them. Schools become prisons where kids are cooped up, and where the minimal skills are learned. No more. Yale's "educational studies" simply mean finding ways of maintaining an oppressive stability by manipulating the people. It has to protect the people who run the country by educating in careful ways which disguise and muddle the truth. This is not meeting the educational needs of the people.

Center for the Study of Management

Yale says that there are some courses in management which are common to education, city government, business, national government, and foreign affairs. Some courses could cover motivation of employees (how to get more work out of them) and reward systems (how little you can get away with paying them at the same time). The same is with citizens and voters—how to get as many votes with as few services to the people as possible. And some courses should study where the people's minds are—what they're thinking. Yale says it should study and teach about the "values of society", the environmental crises, law, violence, and order. Yale knows that people are fighting back against their rotten conditions. What it wants to know is how to buy off a few and beat the rest down. This is what they will study.

Center for the Study of the City

Some faculty have already been hired, and it is clear what the Center for the Study of the City will be about. Two professorships have been endowed at $150,000 each. One will be for the study of "poverty, inequality and general promotion of economic well-being." Yale and the people who are paying for the Social Science Research Center deal with economic well-being by paying workers little as they can get away with without having a revolution.

Another "problem" this center will study is the "allocation of decision-making powers with respect to urban and environmental affairs." Democracy? Yale is going to study how to make it look like people have a little control over their own lives by "distributing decision-making." Yale, and the rich few who own this country, have control and will maintain control until the people take it away from them.

The big corporations are going to pay Yale to find more subtle ways of disguising this control because too many people are seeing through their empty talk about phony democracy and are fighting back.

From experience it is clear that the nice words Yale uses to explain itself cover up a vicious purpose. It is also clear that Yale's Social Science Center is supposed to design schemes which will fool people into believing those lies. The Center is one of the most harmful things that Yale has ever done.

Support Panther Defense Coalition

The founding statement of the Coalition for the Defense of the Panthers says: "The 14 defendants who were jailed upon arrest are awaiting trial on conspiracy to murder and other capital charges. All are being held without bail. They were arrested without a warrant of any kind; held incommunicado; denied assistance of counsel and denied a hearing in probable cause. As a result, certain Constitutional questions surrounding the case have been raised and are currently being adjudicated. Moreover, the conspiracy charge is the hardest to defend and the easiest to prosecute; it is the most unfair to any defendant.

"The Coalition fears that a fair trial of the 14 is virtually impossible unless concerned citizens counteract the campaign of hysteria that was launched against the Panthers only a few hours after their arrest. On May 22, the front page of the **New Haven Register**, for example, carried mug shots of all those arrested. This was accompanied by a highly inflammatory article in which several 'leaks' from police sources were cited to describe alleged evidence against the accused. The tone of this article, and others that followed, coupled with the disclosure of evidence (which, if it exists, should only be introduced at the trial) violated the Panthers' Constitutionally-guaranteed presumption of innocence. It encourages a climate in which the accused may be convicted before the trial ever begins."

All these conditions raise questions about the infringement of the civil rights of the defendants. Moreover, there is a disquieting pattern of harassment of Black Panther Party members discernible across our nation from Los Angeles to Chicago to New York City. United States District Attorney, Cecil F. Poole of San Francisco was quoted in the **Chicago Daily News** on January 14, 1970, as saying "Whatever they (U.S. officials) say they're doing, they're out to get the Black Panthers." Under the circumstances, the question is valid that the nation-wide harassment and particularly that surrounding the New Haven 14 may well be part of a national intent to eradicate the Black Panther Party.

Our concern is both for the Black Panthers and for the threat which this represents to the civil liberties of any individual or group which holds a minority point of view. Our goal is to insure that the Law serve as an instrument of Justice, just as our Constitution serves as an instrument of Democracy. Throughout history whenever governments move to prosecute spokesmen for change, their first step is to curtail basic civil liberties. Here in America we recall the cases of Peter Altgeld, David Thoreau, Sacco and Vanzetti, and Mooney and Billings.

—I enclose _____dollars to assist in the defense of the Panthers.
(Make checks payable to the Coalition for the Defense of the Panthers.

—I enclose _____dollars, tax deductible, for the Black Coalition Panther Legal Defense Fund.
(Make checks payable to the Black Coalition Panther Legal Defense Fund)

—I enclose _____dollars to help defray the costs of future mailings of the Coalition for the Defense of the Panthers.

—I pledge a monthly contribution of _____dollars which I will send to the Coalition on the _____ of every month.

—I am interested in knowing more about the work of the Coalition.

—I should like to have information on obtaining Coalition speakers for club groups, etc.

—I am interested in giving some time to the work of the Coalition.

name _____ telephone _____

address _____ zip _____

POLLUTION PERISCOPE

A Poor Man's Guide to:

Vanishing Fish in New Haven Harbor

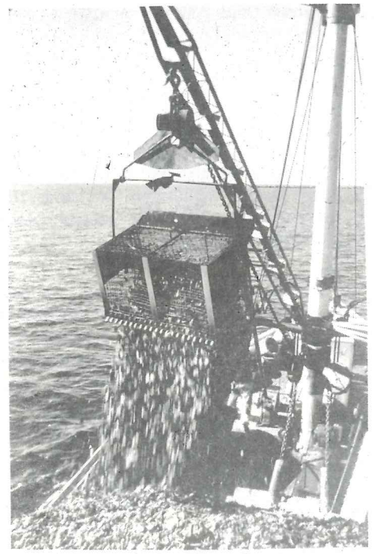
by Environmental Offensive

Does anyone remember when oysters and clams could be taken fresh from our harbor and the Mill and Quinnipiac Rivers, opened on the spot and eaten without the fear of some horrible disease? Or does anyone remember when Atlantic salmon, sturgeon, Atlantic menhaden and American shad were plentiful in the harbor and rivers?

Our water resources have been criminally abused. Our shoreline marshes, which provided food and breeding sites for finfish and shellfish, have been filled in by greedy businessmen and land speculators, in a push for profits. Blakeslee, for example, has already filled in 75% of the Quinnipiac marshes. Companies like Simkins Industries and Federal Paper empty huge volumes of untreated waste directly into our rivers. Our municipal sewer system is hopelessly outdated. The sewer pipes leak and overflow and the "treatment" removes only around half of the solid matter from the sewage before dumping it in the harbor. And to top everything off, the harbor has a serious problem of oil pollution—slicks of unknown origin float up the East Coast or are created locally by ships washing out their oily tanks.

During the past few years scientists have been predicting the death of the oceans from all the wastes dumped into them. This prediction seems hard to believe since the oceans are very large compared to the volume of wastes dumped into them. There are two things, however, which pose a serious threat to ocean life. The first is the poisonous chemicals that are dumped into the water. A good example of a poisonous chemical is DDT, a pesticide which is killing off brown pelicans in the Gulf of Mexico and the California coast. The DDT used in agriculture and forestry washes out into rivers and lakes, and is absorbed by plankton (tiny floating plants and animals). This plankton is the main source of food for small fish. Since the fish eat a lot of plankton, the DDT is concentrated in them. The pelicans and other birds eat the fish and concentrate the DDT even further. The large concentrations of DDT cause the pelicans to lay eggs with such thin shells that they are cracked and destroyed before the baby birds can be hatched. Many other birds, including our national emblem, the bald eagle, are being killed in the same way.

The second factor which endangers our ocean resources is that most wastes are dumped along coastal areas, which are the most vital parts of the ocean for most species of finfish and shell fish. In the estuaries—the areas of brackish water in which the currents of fresh water in rivers meet the salt water of the oceans—many kinds of plants and animals thrive. In Connecticut over 60 species of fish use estuaries and their marsh areas as a nursery and spawning ground. Among these fish are flounder, shad, smelt, bass, bluefish and tom cod.



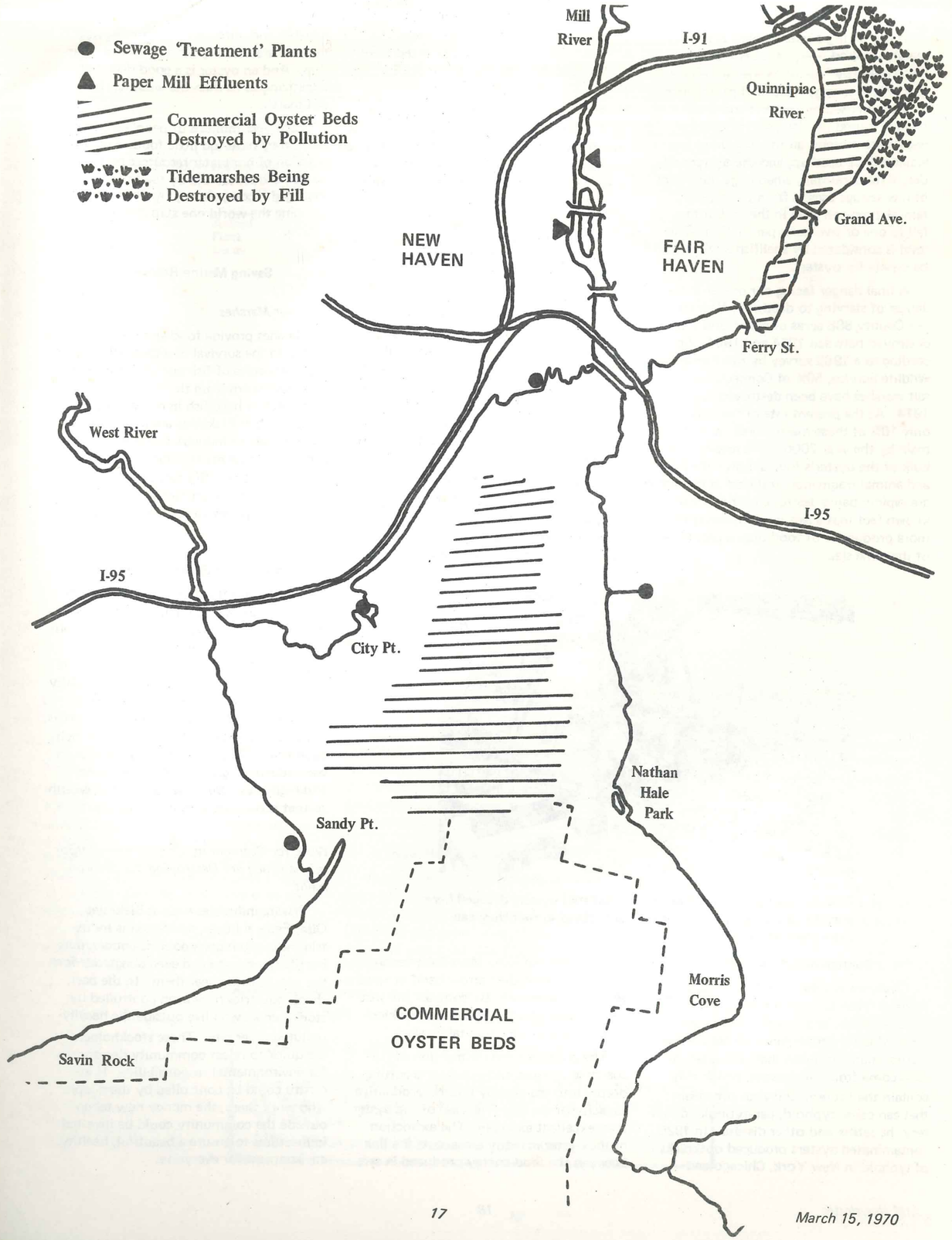
Oysters are still being harvested from the outer harbor, but continued pollution and marshland filling threaten to wipe them out entirely.

Sad Case of the Oyster

The oyster is a creature of the shoreline. In estuaries like the New Haven harbor where fresh water meets salt, conditions are best for the spawning and the development of young oysters. In these regions, oysters thrive on the food which is produced in the salt marshes.

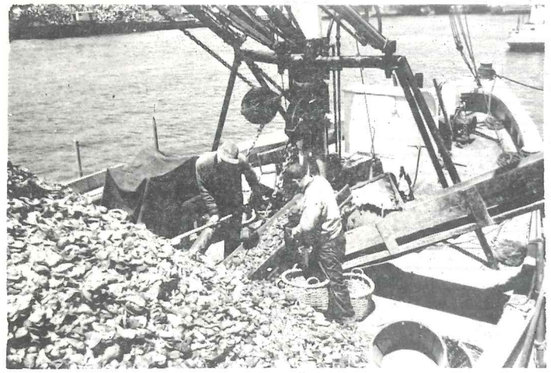
In New Haven Harbor, as on the rest of the East Coast, the waters have been severely polluted, and the marshes are rapidly being destroyed. As a result, the total production of oysters has gone down drastically since the turn of the century. In 1965, for example, the production of oysters was only 40% of what it was in 1908.

Any oyster who has the nerve to live in the New Haven area faces many hazards. In the first place, there is the danger of being covered over by sewage sludge, paper fibers or clay. New Haven is spending its redevelopment money on big business projects like highways, parking garages and demolition of people's homes. This kind of "redevelopment" only brings more pollution into the city. The politicians have let the city sewer system become completely inadequate. The paper companies—Federal Paper and Simkins Industries—are too busy making money and funneling it to stockholders who live outside the inner city to worry about the harm they are doing to the people's resources. They dump tons of paper fibers and clay into the Mill River each day. Their motto is "Pollute for Profit".



If our daring oyster doesn't get completely covered over, he faces the danger of being killed by lack of oxygen in the waters. When sewage waste and paper fibers are decomposed by bacteria and fungi, oxygen is used up. When a lot of these wastes are present, all the oxygen in the water will be used up, and the oyster will die. After a rainfall, when huge quantities of raw sewage escape from the sewer system, the oxygen level in the harbor may fall to one or two parts per million. This level is considered by shellfish engineers to be unsafe for oysters.

A final danger facing our oyster is the danger of starving to death. In New Haven County, 888 acres of marshland were destroyed between 1954 and 1964. According to a 1965 survey by the Fish and Wildlife Service, 50% of Connecticut's salt marshes have been destroyed since 1914. At the present rate of destruction, only 10% of these marshy areas will remain by the year 2000. This means that the bulk of the oyster's food supply—the plant and animal fragments produced in the marsh—are rapidly being destroyed. It is a little-known fact that a salt marsh is many times more productive of food than a plot of land of the same size.



Pollution in New Haven Harbor is so bad that oysters dredged here must be put back in the water on Long Island so that they can clean themselves out.

Contaminated Oysters

Oysters and other shellfish are filter feeders. They siphon in many gallons of water each day and strain out small particles which are their food. In New Haven Harbor many particles that an oyster collects come from raw sewage, which may contain the bacteria and virus organisms that can cause typhoid, paratyphoid, dysentery, hepatitis and other disease. In 1925 contaminated oysters produced outbreaks of typhoid in New York, Chicago and Washington. As late as 1948, a New Haven man died of typhoid contracted from eating contaminated oysters from City Point.

Today there are strict regulations set by the federal and state health departments which guard against the sale of contaminated oysters. Shellfish taking is restricted in areas having high sewage bacteria (coliform) counts. According to these restrictions, our entire harbor is closed to the taking of shellfish. (See shellfish map.) On the East Coast about 25% of total coastal acreage is closed to shellfish harvest.

New Haven Harbor was one of the best natural oyster-producing areas in New England before it was polluted. Even today there are commercial oyster beds in the outer harbor. However, before these oysters can be sold they must be taken to the northern shore of Long Island and left for a year to clean themselves out in the cleaner waters there. Such an extreme measure raises the price of oysters to consumers.

Pollution and World Starvation

Contrary to popular belief, the oceans cannot produce an unlimited supply of food. Already many areas of the world are being overfished, with resulting declines in size and yield of fish. Most fisheries are dependent upon the narrow band of waters along the coastlines. By contrast, the vast areas of open ocean are deserts in which little production of food takes place.

The pollution and destruction of our coastline marshes and estuaries is cutting deeply into the already limited productive capacity of the sea. The case of the oyster is an excellent example. The extinction of the oyster in many areas cuts the link between the food energy produced in salt marshes and ourselves. By farming oysters, we are actually farming the salt marshes. And an oyster is a good deal more appetizing to us than the washings from a salt marsh.

Each year millions of people die because they have too little food. The destruction of our water resources by profit-hungry industries and by sewer systems managed incompetently by politicians is bringing the world one step closer to starvation.

Saving Marine Resources

Save our Marshes

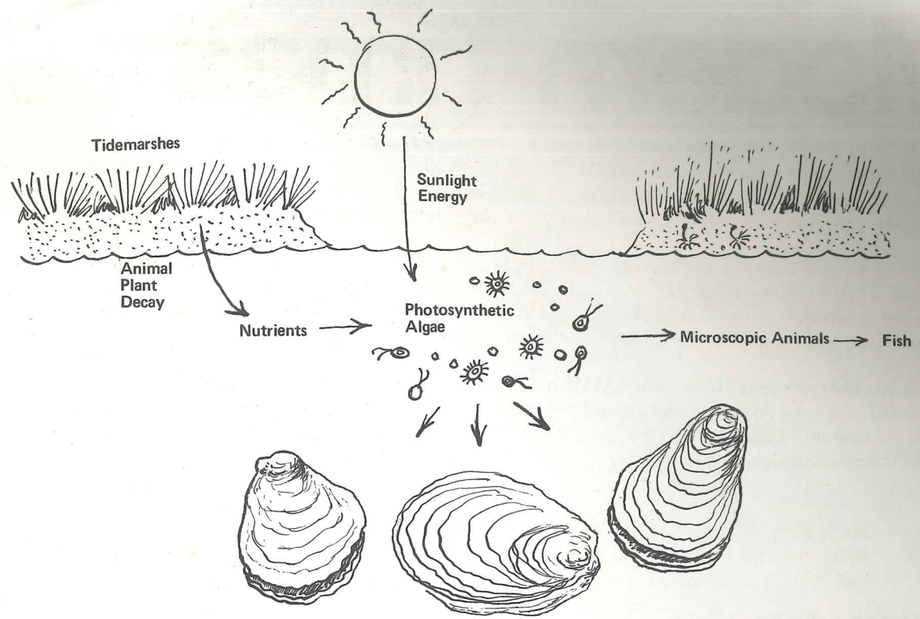
Marshes provide food and shelter essential to the survival of almost all commercial species of fish and shellfish. We must save them from the "developers" if we expect to have fish in our waters. Companies such as Blakeslee are now destroying marshes for industrial sites and marinas and are holding marshes for purposes of land speculation. Big money is being made on these shoreline properties. The people must be prepared to fight hard to save them.

Demand a Decent Sewer System

Raw sewage from the city sewer system is ruining our oyster, clam and other fisheries. We must reshape the priorities of our society that put the Vietnam war, highways, parking garages and Coliseums ahead of clean water, good housing, and a healthy environment for all people. The wealth necessary to reclaim our environment exists, but it is presently controlled by a few rich capitalists who are making huge profits on war industries, gas and oil, automobiles and highways. We must control this wealth so that it benefits society as a whole.

Work for Community Control over Corporations which are Destroying our Environment

Private industries such as Blakeslee, Olin, Federal Paper, and Simkins Industries have often been poor neighbors, making life unpleasant and even dangerous for the people living near them. In the past, these industries have been controlled by stockholders who live outside the heavily-polluted inner city. These stockholders are quick to reject community demands for environmental responsibility. If industry could be controlled by the people who work there, the money now taken outside the community could be invested in measures to ensure a beautiful, healthy, environment for everyone.



Oysters and other shellfish provide a direct link between man and the fantastic productivity of the salt marshes.

Work for Strict Pollution Laws Prosecuted Under the Criminal Code

It is a serious crime to degrade our land, air and water. Until worker and community control of industries comes about, executives of corporations destroying the environment should be prosecuted as the criminals they are. The laws need to be a lot stronger than the ineffective ones on the books now. The laws should provide that the industries clean up their own mess and pay for it themselves, not through tax writeoffs that come from the already overburdened taxpayer. The corporations are the ones committing the crimes against the environment, and they should be the ones who pay the money to reclaim the environment.

New Haven Activities

A lot of research on New Haven's water resources has already been done. Much is known about what has been done to the Mill River and New Haven Harbor. Less is known about the Quinnipiac and West Rivers.

There has been testimony at public hearings. There have been public protests against the pollution of the Mill River and the destruction of the Quinnipiac marshlands. Educational campaigns have been waged to alert people to what is happening.

There are several organizations in town which have studied what is happening. They are willing to share their information and experiences and join forces with any interested people.

FIGHT FOR A LIVABLE NEW HAVEN

JOIN THE SPRING ENVIRONMENTAL OFFENSIVE

New Haven Science Action Group; 550 Osborne (Corner of Sachem & Prospect, opposite the Yale Hockey Rink) 777-5317 or 777-5318

AIM Environment Committee; 148 Orange St. 787-0123

Modern Times *is coming*

MODERN TIMES will be a paper to tell the story of and by the people of New Haven. We don't get that kind of news in commercial papers run for profit. There is no place else in New Haven where the problems of working women and men are told by them instead of by their bosses. There is no place else where the hunger, bad housing, lack of health care and police harassment that poor and unemployed people live with is told by them.

We live in the richest country in the world. But only a few people get to use most of this wealth for themselves. We must all work together to claim the wealth we all helped to create. There would then be no need to strike for a few more crumbs, waste our resources and labor on rockets and bombs, or waste the lives of our young men in wars like Vietnam. We would produce what we need—not what is profitable.

The American Independent Movement (AIM) has been working since 1966 to get people together against the rich, powerful few who run New Haven and the whole country. We want our lives to be free from exploitation, starvation, disease and harassment. We want good housing, good education, day care centers, recreation areas decent health care and decent jobs for all.

JOIN US! WORK WITH US ON MODERN TIMES!
Write about your problems in the community, on the job, or in school—we will print it!
Call 787-0123 or visit the AIM office, 148 Orange Street, New Haven

AIM Supports Postal Strike

As this issue goes to press, AIM is adding its voice to the call for a general strike to support the postal workers and and to protest the use of military force to break this strike. A Strike Committee is being formed to plan further actions and continued support of the postal workers, as events develop. Call 787-0123 if you are interested in working on this committee.

DEMONSTRATE TO FREE NEW YORK PANTHER 21 APRIL 4

Last April 21 members of the New York Black Panther Party were arrested on trumped-up charges of conspiring to blow up botanical gardens and other buildings in New York. All but two of the defendants have been in jail for nearly a year because the bail has been set enormously high. This case is part of the nationwide campaign to destroy the Black Panther Party. Saturday, April 4, a March and Rally sponsored by the Committee to Defend the Panther 21 and the Conspiracy will be held to free the Panther 21 and all political prisoners. The march will start at noon from the Central Park Mall on 72 Street in New York City. Watch for further information.

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